



**National Park Service**  
**U.S. Department of the Interior**

Apostle Islands  
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## Apostle Islands News Release

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### **Apostle Islands National Lakeshore Tourism Creates \$24 million in Local Economic Benefit** *Part of \$26.7 billion impact that supports 201,000 jobs nationwide*

BAYFIELD, WISCONSIN – A new National Park Service (NPS) report for 2012 shows that 163,419 visitors to Apostle Islands National Lakeshore spend \$24 million in communities surrounding the park. This spending supported 330 jobs in the local area.

“Apostle Islands National Lakeshore provides premier cultural, natural and recreational experiences for visitors from across the country and around the world” said park superintendent Bob Krumenaker. “This new report shows that national park tourism is a significant driver in the national economy – returning \$10 for every \$1 invested – and funding generated by national parks has a swift and direct positive impact on local economies.”

The information on Apostle Islands National Lakeshore is part of a peer-reviewed spending analysis of national park visitors across the country conducted by U.S. Geological Survey economists Catherine Cullinane, Thomas and Christopher Huber, and Lynne Koontz for the National Park Service. The report shows \$14.7 billion of direct spending by 283 million park visitors in communities within 60 miles of a national park. This spending supported 243,000 jobs nationally, with 201,000 jobs found in these gateway communities, and had a cumulative benefit to the U.S. economy of \$26.75 billion.

According to the report, most visitor spending supports jobs in restaurants, grocery and convenience stores (39 percent), hotels, motels and B&Bs (27 percent), and other recreation (20 percent).

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To download the report visit <http://www.nature.nps.gov/socialscience/economics.cfm>.

The report includes information for visitor spending by park and by state.

To learn more about national parks in Wisconsin, including Apostle Islands National Lakeshore, and how the National Park Service works with communities to preserve local history, conserve the environment, and provide local recreation opportunities, go to [www.nps.gov/wisconsin](http://www.nps.gov/wisconsin) or [www.nps.gov/apis](http://www.nps.gov/apis).

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